

BIRTHS.

Daughters. on the 30th

At Makalee House, Shanghai, on the 1st
Instant, the Wife of C. OSWALD LIDDELL,
of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.
On the 28th March, at the German Con-
sulate-General, Shanghai, before Dr. Ein-
waldt, FRIEDRICH WILHELM MILCHLING,
V.U.Z., Schönbstadt, to MAY MABEL Mc-
CARTHY-ALCOTT.

DEATHS.
At Nagasaki, on 28th March, PAULINA;

R. de Souza, aged 9 months.
At Shanghai, on 30th March, FLORENCE
MARY, the beloved wife of J. Draper-
Bantley, aged 27 years.

per—The publication of this issue commenced
at 4:40 p.m.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 1896.

THE welcome given to Sir Claude Ma-

donald by the members of the Hong-kong Branch of the China Association has been already described, and justly so, as a most enthusiastic, hearty, and sincere demonstration. Over seventy gentlemen assembled together at luncheon to do honour to their guest, and the distinguishing feature of the gathering was that it was thoroughly British. Notwithstanding this marked characteristic, there was nothing Jingois about the speeches on this occasion. The new British Minister, as was quite natural, could not and did not enter into a discussion of the political situation in

China. His many references, however, to the 'leapfrog, commercial, industrial, and political' which 'our forefathers thought have here in the Far East handed down' to us, 'which it is our bounden duty to maintain at all hazards, is a keynote to which is certain to meet with the fullest and most hearty approval of every British resident in the Far East. It clearly demonstrates that the Queen's Representative has not only studied most of the history of Foreign intercourse with China, but that he has correctly assessed the predominant part taken by Great Britain in the opening-up of the vast Empire.

Empire which is now 100 centre or so
 much political rivalry. The whole tone
 of Sir Claude's remarks, indeed, fairly
 justifies the conviction that our new
 Minister to Peking fully realizes the im-
 mense and possibly grave importance of
 the problems which will have to be
 solved during the next year or two in
 China. So far as can be judged by a
 short stay of less than two days, Sir
 Claude Macdonald strikes us as per-
 haps the best and the strongest man
 next to Sir Harry Parkes and Sir Fer-
 derick Bruce, who has yet represented
 our interests at the Chinese capital.

There can be no question that we need such a man now at Peking as sorely as ever we did in the history of Foreign intercourse with the Chinese mandarinate. If the officer now so handsomely and so successfully entertained by the youthful China Association fails to justify the high hopes entertained of him, then appearances are very deceptive. We congratulate the Committee and the members of the China Association upon this proof of their usefulness as a body—and, might we add, as a body of Britishers. No one can say that Hongkong does not

most joyfully adhere to and cultivate the cosmopolitan spirit which pervades this Island—the freedom of the port has made and will continue to enlarge our trade here,—but it was refreshing to hear and to peruse the proceedings of a gathering which was cut-and-out gathering of British people.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.
[SUPPLIED TO THE "CHINA MAIL."]
LONDON, April 3, 1896.

The Senate has passed a vote of want of confidence in the Foreign Policy of the Government, and has also deferred voting on the Madagascar credit. Notwithstanding this, the Cabinet has resolved to remain in office.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE TRANSVAAL.

The Times states that Mr Chamberlain has sent a despatch to President Kruger, friendly but firm, which insists on the

the redress of the Outlanders' grievances affirms the right of Great Britain to interfere, and requests a reply to the invitation to President Kruger to visit England.

A Tacoma despatch of the 8th March—the *San Francisco Chronicle* says:—It announced that the Northern Pacific Steamship Company has purchased two new steamers in Great Britain for the Tacoma-Hongkong line. One will enter the service immediately and the other soon after the new crop of tea is ready for shipment. The first one has been refitted at Glasgow.

from Glasgow for Hongkong February 22nd, and will arrive here on her first trip in April. She was built in Scotland last year, and is described as a finer boat, particularly as regards passenger accommodations, than either of the three now running, she will carry over 5,000 tons of freight. The second steamer is now being overhauled at Glasgow and, it is understood, will be re-christened the *Columbiad*. In size she is similar to the *Olympic*. The local officers have been expecting more detailed information regarding the steamer, but by every mail, and pending its receipt have given out information with reluctance. The new steamers will increase the Northern

Facilio is building new cars and increasing its dock facilities in anticipation of increased Oriental business. Mr Wheeler, American manager for the Company, has gone to Siam to adjust rates on through shipments with traffic officials.

W. Robinson & Co. have 180 Planes to Hire on Monthly Payments, also Planes returned from Hire cheap.

